

THERE GOES THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Written by

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TEASER

INT. GARDEN WORKSHOP - DAY

A large, glorified shed with garden tools hanging from wall-hooks; forks, shears, saw, wood-axe, secateurs.

ALISON AMBROSE, 39, country elegant. Dry, sharp, focused. Ali looks the everywoman.

She's gripping a hoe, pacing, breathing heavily. Scared.

A face appears at the shed window. Tap, tap on glass.

PRODUCER 40s, a get-things-done sort of woman.

PRODUCER

We don't bite, Mrs Ambrose.

EXT. BEAUTIFUL GARDEN - DAY

Producer leads Ali to a bench with a spectacular background.

GAFFER - 60s, male, professional - fiddles with a reflector.

GAFFER

Watch the well.

He whistles a dropping sound then a muddled THUD-SPLAT.

ALI

(snaps)

Yes, I'm the one who restored it.

(beat)

Sorry, it's my first photoshoot.

Gaffer just nods, his mood shifted.

A PHOTOGRAPHER (40s, male, bored, he's better than this job) waits impatiently. Producer checks the scene.

PRODUCER

Could we move the tire-swing to that branch?

Neither Photographer or Gaffer budge. Not their job.

Ali's already there, in her element. Jump-cut:

She unclips the swing ropes. Lowers the tire. Rolls the tire to the opposite branch. Throws the ropes over the branch. Hauls up the heavy tire. Re-clips the swing ropes.

Brushes her hands off as she strolls past the two men.

CUT TO:

Ali poses by the bench. Supreme confidence, fake. CLICK!

ALI (V.O.)

This garden belongs to - how do I
say this nicely - a contrasting
multi-generational family-

Different pose, not sure what to do with the hoe. CLICK!

ALI (V.O.)

-so I wanted to seamlessly meld
disparate landscape styles over
creating the hard divisions of
formal gardens.

On the bench, can't find a good pose position. CLICK!

EXT. BEAUTIFUL GARDEN - TERRACE - DAY

Another view of the large, beautiful garden in the
background. Producer interviews Ali.

PRODUCER

What's next for 'Homes and Gardens'
Fresh Designer award winner?

Nearby, Gaffer catches his reflection in a window, he stares
at himself like he's never seen his face before. Odd.

ALI

I'd like to establish a successful,
stable design business.

EXT. BEAUTIFUL GARDEN - DAY

Ali strolls around the garden, candid photos being taken from
a distance.

ALI

(impression of herself)
"Seamlessly meld disparate
landscape styles"? You sound like a
fucking twat.

PRODUCER

Okay, we've got it!

The team pack up. Producer strides over to Ali.

PRODUCER (CONT'D)
The magazine will be out in six weeks. Oh, and congratulations.

ALI
Yep, you too-
(cringe)
-thanks!

Ali can't get away fast enough.

As she hurries she knocks some lighting kit as Gaffer packs up, kicking a switch back to live and infuriating him.

Her phone vibrates.

ALI (CONT'D)
It's over, thank Christ.

Back-ground: Gaffer snaps. He looks up, crazy eyes.

ALI (CONT'D)
Thanks, honey. It's going to be worth it. For all of us.

Back-ground: Gaffer staggers towards Ali, seething. Mad.

Ali tuts and moves away from him, trying to talk privately.

ALI (CONT'D)
I'm not sure. A certificate, I suppose. I didn't ask.

Ali turns away again from the approaching Gaffer. Annoyed.

The Gaffer raises a large light, a killing blow coming.

Then Gaffer shudders horrifically, a live cable in his hands.

ALI (CONT'D)
Even my father seems impressed.

The Gaffer stumbles forwards, dropping the light. He trips on the cable and falls. As Ali spins around to face him-

ALI (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, but would you mind-

-his head SMACKS onto the edge of the stone wellhead before he plummets into the well itself.

A moment. Then a crunchy, final-sounding THUD-SPLAT!

Ali gasps. She stares, open-mouthed, watching a little pool of his blood dripping down the wellhead.

Producer and Photographer come running.

ALI (CONT'D)

Oh, my god.

A faint repeating voice from Ali's phone. She's in shock.

ALI (CONT'D)

I forgot to mention the ornamental
grasses.

END OF TEASER